



Detroit Tough Epoxy

PRODUCT INSTRUCTIONS

Make sure you mask off the area that you are working on. Painter's plastic with painter's tape is ideal as using a substitute like cardboard will allow the epoxy to bleed through the cracks and crevices into unwanted areas. Epoxy is extremely durable once it is cured, so removing unwanted epoxy will be difficult. Save yourself the trouble and mask off areas as good as possible.

If the surface you are coating is refrigerated or cold by nature, make sure you find a way to heat the surface to room temperature before proceeding with your epoxy install as the cold surface will compromise the binding process.

1. Flood coats are typically a single coat for counter tops and tables. They are applied in 1/4" coats at a time and can be reapplied as many times as desired as long as there is a 4-6 hour drying interval in between coatings. If drying interval exceeds 10 hours, a light sand is required followed by a cleaning with denatured alcohol before the next coat can be applied.
2. Make sure the area you are applying epoxy in is above 75 degrees a few hours before mixing the epoxy. It is critical that during the curing process the temperature stays above 75 degrees.
3. We urge you to heat up the container containing the resin (Part A) with warm/hot water for a few minutes. This will cause the epoxy to mix easier. However, heating up the resin prior to mixing causes the epoxy to harden quicker. DO NOT heat the hardner (Part B). Pour the entire solution onto your surface following mixing.
4. Batches are not meant to be mixed simultaneously. Mix one batch at a time as the epoxy will begin to harden immediately in the container. Mix a single batch, pour it and level it. Afterwards you have 20 minutes to pour the next batch, continuing the smooth seamless surface you are creating.
5. Stirring by hand is an acceptable method to use. We recommend a mixing drill as it will blend the solution much better. Mixing is highly important. Improperly mixed epoxy will not cure the way it should and will result in a surface that is sticky and not aesthetically pleasing. Mix the solution for 2 minutes when using a drill, avoiding mixing at too high of speed (this avoids making bubbles in the epoxy). Make sure to evenly mix the container, moving the drill all around to ensure all material is being mixed. After two minutes of mixing, use a stir stick to scrape epoxy from the bottom and sides of the container to make sure all material is mixed. Mix the resulting solution for an additional two minutes. Pour the solution immediately after mixing is complete.
6. Table Top Epoxy levels off at about a 1/4 inch thick. Additional coatings can be applied if a thicker level is desired. It is necessary to wait at least 4 hours and a maximum of 10 hours before applying an additional coating. The most effective way to install epoxy is to begin pouring on one end, going left to right (or vice versa) working your way to the opposite end. Pouring slowly with control of the container is the key to a successful pour. Any areas that were missed can be compensated by pouring more epoxy in that area.

Bar Rails: Install the bar rail first and seal the rail with a small bead of Elmer's Glue or Latex Caulk to keep air bubbles from emerging during the epoxy coat. Do not use glues containing silicone to secure the bar rail, epoxy does not stick to silicone. It is recommended that you coat the bar rail with a polyurethane instead of epoxy, polyurethane is much easier to work around the bar rail as it has a smaller thickness.

Edges: To create coatings on edges, epoxy can be allowed to run off the edges slowly. Instead of forming icicles like other coatings, epoxy forms 1/2" under the bar rail. If unwanted these drips can be removed by sanding after curing.



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7. Once epoxy is poured and air bubbles are visible, you will need to remove them using a heat source. We recommend using propane torch or heat gun. When using the heat source, keep the source a few inches from the surface of the epoxy to ensure that the epoxy does not burn. This is a quick process and should take no longer than a minute or two. After the first heating, wait 5-10 minutes and check again for bubbles. Repeat the process as needed, however don't use a heat source if the epoxy has been curing for 20 minutes or longer as it can cause permanent waves or ripples.

For best results use coasters when placing extremely hot items on the epoxy surface. The initial months following application are critical as 99% of the epoxy is cured but has not developed full heat protection. Epoxy should not be treated like stone with heat. Place heated objects with caution.

Clean Up: Tools used for application, such as the drill bit or stir sticks can be reused without cleaning. Wet Epoxy cleans off of hands with acetone, floors or other surfaces can be cleaned with acetone but should be cleaned with caution as the acetone may affect your surface.

Maintenance: To clean your epoxy finish do not use abrasive chemicals. Instead, use warm soapy water with a soft cloth.

ADVANCED TECHNIQUES

These application methods below are known to be accurate but are considered advanced techniques and we cannot accept liability for unintended results.

Embedding Solid Objects: Items such as rocks, bottle caps, coins, etc can be inserted into the epoxy surface. However, the surface must first be sealed with a base coat of epoxy. Following the base coat, the items can be inserted carefully but do not allow air bubbles to appear. At this point you can either allow the surface to cure with the items and then add another layer of epoxy or you can simply leave the first coat as a sealer.

Embedding Pictures: Pictures can be embedded into the Table Top Epoxy surface using Mod Podge which is available at craft stores. This will prevent the epoxy from eating through the pictures, paper objects or any other material you include on your surface.

Re-Coating: If a re-coat is needed and it is within the initial 4-10 hour curing window of the first coat, no further preparation work is required. However, if the curing window exceeds 10 hours from the initial coating a light sanding is required. Clear the dust off the surface with denatured alcohol and wiped down with a clean and lint free rag. Scratches left from sanding will be dissipated in the next coat and the surface will look like glass once again.

TROUBLESHOOTING: Surface is soft, wet or sticky after 48 hours: The cause of this problem is a solution that was not properly mixed. When the two epoxy components are mixed they should be mixed thoroughly. The solution is to apply a new flood coat over the entire surface. If the surface is soft or wet use denatured alcohol and a paint scraper to remove as much of the previous soft coating as possible then pour the new epoxy layer on top. This new coat will dry and harden the entire surface if all steps are followed properly.

Air Bubbles: Air bubbles scattered across the entire surface are a result of not removing bubbles during the installation process. A heat gun or hair dryer, at a minimum, is crucial for the application process.



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COVERAGE

Size	Seal Coat Coverage	Flood Coat Coverage
2 Quarts	24 sq. ft.	8 sq. ft.
1 Gallon	48 sq. ft.	16 sq. ft.
2 Gallons	96 sq. ft.	32 sq. ft.
3 Gallons	150 sq. ft.	50 sq. ft.
4 Gallons	195 sq. ft.	65 sq. ft.
5 Gallons	245 sq. ft.	85 sq. ft.
6 Gallons	290 sq. ft.	100 sq. ft.
7 Gallons	340 sq. ft.	115 sq. ft.
8 Gallons	390 sq. ft.	130 sq. ft.
9 Gallons	440 sq. ft.	145 sq. ft.
10 Gallons	490 sq. ft.	160 sq. ft.

HMIS SYMBOL

	Part A	Part B
HEALTH	2	3
FLAMMABILITY	1	1
REACTIVITY	0	0

FIRST-AID

EYES: Flush with copious amounts of water. Lift lids and remove contact lenses to ensure complete irrigation. Seek medical attention.

SKIN: Flush with water, and then wash with soap and water. Launder contaminated clothing before reuse. Seek medical attention if irritation persists.

INHALATION: Remove to fresh air and assist breathing as necessary. Seek medical attention.

INGESTION: If appreciable amounts have been swallowed, seek medical attention.

Wholesale discounts are available. If you would like to become a dealer call or email us for more information.

If you have any questions regarding the application process call or email us. Thanks for your purchase!